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'Spies operating on every major campus'

Watchdog faults CIA ways

By RANDALL BEACH Staff Reporter

The CIA has spies operating on every major American campus, according to Morton Halperin, director of the Center for National Security Studies.

"I assume they are at Yale," Halperin said during a news conference Tuesday at Yale Law School.

Halperin, whose group monitors CIA activities, said the Reagan administration has given the intelligence agency expanded powers at home. He said that when Congress created the CIA, the agency was intended solely to gather intelligence abroad.

"But the CIA has secret agents on every major American campus. These are professors who have signed agreements not to reveal their identities. Their main function is to spy on foreign students. They recruit these students to go back home and spy on their own countries."

Halperin said this activity did not originate with the Reagan administration. "We know that, at least in the past, it's happened at Yale."

He called this "a continuing corruption of the process of American universities. To have professors secretly reporting the political beliefs of their students to the CIA — this is a violation of academic freedom. It's a program that should be terminated."

But Halperin said the U.S. government seems to be headed in the opposite direction. He said the Reagan directive allows the CIA to "conduct covert activities within the U.S." He said this means "spying on Americans."

"Let's say a Yale professor goes to Poland. He comes back and the CIA calls him, but he won't talk with them. However, he meets with the faculty to discuss his experiences. Under the Carter administration, CIA spies couldn't go to that meeting. But under Reagan, they could go secretly, gather information and transmit it to the CIA.

"The Reagan administration has vastly changed covert operation standards and their frequency. His people view covert operations as a routine instrument of policy."

Halperin, who obtained his doctorate from Yale, went on to serve as deputy assistant secretary of defense and as a senior staff member of the National Security Council. He once worked for former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger and later sued him for wiretapping the Halperin home phone. Halperin won the case but is still waiting to collect the damages.

After the news conference, Halperin told mem-

bers of the Yale Political Union that the CIA has for decades violated Americans' civil liberties through such illegal operations as steaming open mail.

"The CIA should be taken out of the business of covert operations. These are fundamental violations of the basic principles most Americans think we stand for in the world."

Halperin said the CIA's covert actions abroad are also despicable because they have led to CIA agents helping overthrow governments and replacing them with more repressive regimes, as in Guatemala and Chile. "This is a subversion of the democratic process."

He said CIA agents are still operating in Guatemala. "That government makes the rulers in Poland look mild. They practice systematic murder."

Halperin said the CIA is undercutting its own intelligence-gathering.

"The problem is when the CIA influences what's going on, its reporting suffers. One reason why the CIA did so badly in predicting the shah's fall in Iran was that its job was to keep him in power. They have the same problem now in El Salvador. Their job is to keep that government in power."

Halperin originally was supposed to debate control of the CIA with Roy Cohn, the attorney who worked with the late Sen. Joseph McCarthy. But Cohn was unable to come to New Haven Tuesday. He will meet with the political union tonight.